

SYNONYMIC NOTES IN THE GENUS *GLAENOCORISA*
THOMSON (HEMIPTERA, CORIXIDAE).

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Thomson in 1869¹ described *Corixa cavifrons* and proposed for this species the subgenus *Glaenocorisa*. His specimens came from Skane (Sweden) and Lapland. The species is a characteristic one and well known by the above name. Unfortunately Fieber in 1848² had misidentified this species as *Corisa carinata* Sahlberg and figured the male pala. On page 530 and just before his *Corisa carinata* he described *C. Dohrnii* for some females from Germany and Dalmatia that have since been recognized as probably the same as Thomson's *C. cavifrons*.⁵ In 1851 Fieber³ repeats the above and in 1860⁴ places in his key (p. 99) the names in the following order: *C. carinata*, *C. Dohrnii*, *C. propinqua*. Jaczewski 1924⁵ (p. 25) recognizes *C. propinqua* Fieber as being a *Glaenocorisa* and in 1928⁶ considers *C. propinqua* Fieber as probably a synonym of *G. cavifrons* Thoms. This may have led Poisson 1935⁷ to suggest that *C. propinqua* Fieb. should have priority over *C. cavifrons* Thomson if they are the same. However, if *C. Dohrnii* Fieber 1848 is the same as *G. cavifrons* Thomson 1869, then *C. Dohrnii* Fieber is the name that has priority over *G. cavifrons* Thomson and not *C. propinqua* Fieb. Thomson 1869¹ pointed out that his species was the same as *C. carinata* Fieber but not *C. carinata* C. Sahlb. 1819, an example of which he describes from Zetterstedt's Swedish collection. Lundblad 1922⁸ discusses the confusion between *Glaenocorisa cavifrons* Thomson and *Arctocorisa carinata* (Sahlberg) and gives the distribution of the former in both text and map. He says that *A. carinata* (Sahlberg) is not now found in Sweden but gives the distribution of *Glaenocorisa cavifrons* Thomson as widespread and lists the published records. Among others is that of Strand⁹ 1902 who reported the species from Aal (Norway). Fortunately I have a male specimen labeled "Aal—Strand" that came to me from Hawaii in a remnant of the Kirkaldy collection. To my surprise this specimen is not *Glaenocorisa cavifrons* Thomson, as we know it, but *Glaenocorisa quadrata* Walley⁹ which was described from Quebec, Canada, in 1930. This is a most interesting extension of the distribution of *G. quadrata* Walley which I now know from the following places: Savonoski, Alaska, Naknek Lake; Aklavik, N. W. T.; Newfoundland, Trinity Goose Cove; and Aal, Norway. The presence of the species in Norway, however, throws some suspicion upon the published records of *G. cavifrons* Thomson. It may

be that some other records of *G. cavifrons* Thomson apply to *G. quadrata* Walley and the problem needs a thorough review. In *G. quadrata* Walley the male pala has the peg row reaching up to the dorsal carina. In *G. cavifrons* Thomson this is not true.

Since Butler¹¹ and Hutchinson¹² had described the variation of *G. cavifrons* in Britain and pointed out that a large, dark form exists in the highlands of Scotland and Islay and a smaller, paler form in southern England, Hutchinson¹³ 1928 states: "It is most unlikely that if the pale form of *cavifrons* exists outside Britain, it should have been entirely overlooked by Continental Hemipterists and we may reasonably suppose that *propinqua* refers to this pale southern race. The two extreme forms are so distinct in appearance that they would be readily mistaken for distinct species superficially and are certainly entitled to subspecific rank." He proposed to designate them *Glaenocorisa cavifrons cavifrons* Thoms., N. Europe, Scotland; and *Glaenocorisa cavifrons propinqua* Fieb., Austria, England.

According to Walton,¹⁴ also, it is possible to recognize two varieties of *G. cavifrons*. One he calls *Glaenocorixa cavifrons propinqua* (Fieb.). Then he says, "The specimens of *Glaenocorixa propinqua* Fieb. are as large as *G. cavifrons* Th. but they differ in that they have dark brown mottlings and lines upon a golden background; the eyes are not quite so prominent and the facial impression is slightly deeper and higher between the eyes." In the specimen before me, labeled by Walton as *Glaenocorixa propinqua* Fieb., the facial impression is not deeper or higher than in the common *G. cavifrons* but the color pattern is quite different. China,¹⁵ in his check list of British species of Hemiptera-Heteroptera, lists *Glaenocorisa propinqua* (Fieber 1860) and subspecies *cavifrons* Thomson 1869.

I am inclined to agree with Jaczewski⁵ (p. 25) that *C. Dohrnii* Fieber is a *Glaenocorixa* but, since the species was known to Fieber only by female specimens which have not been re-examined in recent times, the matter can not be convincingly settled. The discovery of *Glaenocorisa quadrata* Walley from Norway makes advisable a re-examination of the distributional records of *Glaenocorisa cavifrons* Thomson.

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- ⁹ Strand, Embr. 1902. Forske Fund Av Hemiptera. Entomologisk Tidskrift, XXIII, p. 266.
- ¹⁰ Walley, G. S. 1930. Heteroptera from the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Can. Ent., LXII, pp. 80-81, pl. 10, figs. 10-13.
- ¹¹ Butler, E. A. 1923. A Biology of the British Hemiptera-Heteroptera.
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- ¹⁴ Walton, G. A. 1936. Aquatic Hemiptera in Somerset. Entomologist's Monthly Magazine, LXXII, p. 20.
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Unusual Fare of Praying Mantis.—At Baldwin, L. I., N. Y., on October 10, 1942, a female praying mantis, *Tenodera sinensis*, was discovered gripping a four-inch short-tailed shrew in its spiked forelegs. The animal was still warm when examined. It is possible that the shrew was originally caught by a cat and found injured by the mantis. When observed, the insect was beginning to feed on the animal, biting into the back of the neck just as is customary in devouring its normal fare of insects.—EDWIN WAY TEALE, Baldwin, L. I., N. Y.